Denial of ESI Benefits to Employees of closed Industries

3006. SHRI SATISHCHANDRA SITARAM PRADHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that ESI subscribers in the employment of locked out/closed industries are denied ESI benefits;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government will evolve a scheme in co-ordination with Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC), the Industries who have withheld payments/dues of the employee who were subscribers to the ESI Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (c) The ESI Scheme is a contributory scheme based on the concept of "Pooling of risks and resources". As such for availing ESI benefits certain qualifying contibutory conditions have been prescribed in the ESI Act, Rules and Regulations framed threunder. The workers of closed factories/establishments or those under lock out are eligible for medical benefit for one benefit period even if contribution in respect of them is not paid and return of contribution is not submitted. In the cases of insured workers of the closed factories/establishments in whose respect contributions are not paid or returns of contributions are not received for one year, benefits of medical care under the ESI Scheme are not admissible. However,if employers of the closed/locked out factories, certify that the contributions in respect of their workers have been deducted from the wages payable to them, such workers remain eligible for medical care as well as other benefits.

The Corrupt Public Servants (Forfeiture of Property) Bill

3007. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government considering a proposal to enact the Corrupt Public Servants Forfeiture of Property Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and when this legislation is likely to be passed; and

(c) whether the Government have any proposal from the Central Vigilance Commission that pending the enactment of the aforesaid law, the